

# THE ALMA RECORD.

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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 23, 1918

WHOLE NUMBER 2044

## LIFE SENTENCE GIVEN EICHORN

Jury Out Only a Short Time Before Returning Verdict of Murder in First Degree.

## NOW IN MARQUETTE PRISON

Immediate Trial for Brennan Asked and Change of Venue Petitioned For.

It took the jury to the Albert Eichorn case just a little over two hours to bring in a verdict of guilty, Monday afternoon, after having been charged by Circuit Judge Moinet. The verdict came on the second ballot of the jury.

When the jury returned to the court room a tense silence held sway, the audience having been warned by the court to make no demonstration. When the foreman of the jury delivered the verdict, "guilty," there was a shuffling of feet, a quick intake of breath, as the crowd sat back in the chairs, satisfied, because of popular verdict, based squarely upon the evidence that had been returned.

Judge Moinet turned to Eichorn and asked him if he had anything to say. Apparently calm, but with perspiration seeping through the pores in his forehead, he still maintained his innocence.

The judge spoke of the fate which had overtaken Albert Eichorn, before pronouncing sentence upon him, setting forth to him and to the packed court room, that the fate was the simple, plain result of a mis-spent life. He spoke feelingly of the wife who had clung to him in spite of all, and of the painful feelings which she was forced to endure. Then sentence was pronounced, life at Marquette prison.

Albert Eichorn was immediately taken into the custody of the officers, brought to Alma, and on the 7:50 train was started for Marquette, where prison doors have now closed upon him, a man who has for years been a menace to society.

The attorneys for the defense and the prosecution made their pleas to the jury the latter part of the week. Attorneys Kelly S. Searl and Ora L. Smith speaking for the prosecution and attorneys Charles H. Goggin and William Smith for the defense. All of them made brilliant pleas. In their efforts to sway the jury, Ora L. Smith, prosecutor, in his plea made mention of the work, which had been done by David Beaudry in working up the case, and said that if a man was entitled to the reward, Beaudry was, if the jury found Eichorn guilty. It is taken to mean that the French Canadian who has been making his home in this city will receive the reward of two thousand dollars which was offered last fall by the Gratiot board of supervisors for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of the murderer or murderers of Beatrice Epler, the Alma girl for whose death Eichorn was tried.

The conviction of Albert Eichorn means that John F. Brennan of Flint and Inez Johnson, the Alma woman, who are held in connection with the death of Beatrice Epler on charges of murder, will be brought to trial, and the conviction of Eichorn seems to foreshadow the conviction of these.

Immediately following the conviction of Albert Eichorn, the attorneys for John F. Brennan, Flint Showman, one of the three held on a charge of murder in connection with the death of Miss Beatrice Epler of this city, asked for an immediate trial for him. This was followed by a petition to the court for a change of venue, and it is said that the defense favors having the case tried in Montcalm county.

The arguments on the motion for a change of venue will come Monday, and if the petition for the change is turned down by Circuit Judge Moinet, the trial will be immediately started.

If the motion for the change is granted the case will be held up for a time at least pending the necessary arrangements to have the case tried in some other county.

The jury is asked to report the fore part of the week, and if the venue change is granted other cases will be taken up in circuit court.

The conviction of Eichorn recalls the finding of the body of Beatrice Epler at a point a number of rods north of her home on Grover avenue on the morning of September 15, 1917, almost three-quarters of a year ago.

Strangulation was at once evident, as finger marks were plainly indented in the neck of the young girl. County officers were quickly called in but failed to make headway in the case, although the finger of suspicion pointed to Albert Eichorn from the

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## FINAL GAME

Ypsi Normals to Oppose Alma in Season's Final Battle Saturday.

The final game for the Alma college Michigan Intercollegiate champions of 1918 will be played on Davis field Saturday afternoon, when the Helmerites stack up against the strong Ypsi Normal nine.

The Maroon and Cream has been looking better each time out and without question is one of the best college teams in the state today, even though composed of almost all green men, who are playing their first college baseball, and they threaten to give the Teachers a great scrap for the honors in the forthcoming game.

Eddie Boyne, Alma college phenom, will again do mound duty, and will make every effort to stop the fast going Normals, who have piled up victory after victory this year. Boyne will try to keep the season's hit record under fifty hits, and will have to pitch some base ball as he has been taken for almost that number of hits now in nine games. He is still just a little short of the hundred mark on strikeouts and will also go after that mark in the forthcoming bout.

If he achieves both marks he will have set a record of having allowed an average of five hits to a game for ten games and of having averaged over ten strikeouts to the game for the entire season.

Without question the Normals will send Powers to the mound to stop the Maroon and Cream, and it is very likely that the fans will be greeted with a classy pitchers' battle.

## WIN THE MICHIGAN COLLEGIATE TITLE

Swamp Olivet for Title—Defeat Mt. Pleasant's Unbeaten Team in Overtime Game.

In the last M. I. A. A. game of the season Alma took Olivet into camp 11-1. The score really represents the superiority of the Helmer coached aggregation over Adams' crew. Every game that the Alma team has played some improvement has been made and it is now just hitting its stride.

The infield took the first three Olivet men to face Boyne, and then the fireworks began. Smith was safe on an error at short. Pelton took one in the ribs. Ardis hit and Smith scored. Eddie walked and Pelton scored on W. Richards infield out.

Olivet managed to get two on in the second on a walk and a fielder's choice after two were dead. Eddie just added a little steam and the third man struck out. In her half Alma scored six runs. Richards was safe on an error at short. Warner was safe on a fielder's choice which took no one. Smith took one on the edge of his shirt. Pelton hit and Warner and Richards scored. Ardis soaked one for three sacks and scored a minute later on an error at second. Boyne scored on two infield outs and a fielder's choice while the ump had a piece of dirt in his eye.

The third was short, both sides goin out one, two, three. Myers had replaced Greenwood. The fourth was hardly more fruitful. Olivet going out in perfect order while Alma scored one on a walk, stolen base and a hit.

W. Richards replaced Boyne on the mound and was greeted with a hit between short and third. He walked the next man, the only one he issued, and then settled down and the infield took two while Boyne helped with his catch back of short.

Alma added two in the sixth on three errors and a fielder's choice and completed their scoring. Olivet was unable to score until the ninth when Richards loosened up and they touched him for two hits in succession. Just to show them he was good yet he struck out the last man.

The Alma college base ball team put across a great victory Tuesday by taking coach Nevitt's undefeated Mt. Pleasant Normal aggregation into camp by a score of 3 to 1 in a ten inning battle, which was a thrilling hurlers' duel between Spink and Boyne.

The Alma hurler had every advantage over the Normalite, having the teachers eating out of his paw at every stage of the contest and had the game gone strictly on its merits the Marlette lad would have had a shut-out during the ten innings.

Spink was found for five safe swats, one a triple by Ardis and another a double by Pelton. He managed to strikeout thirteen Helmerites during the course of the ten frames.

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## The Convicted Eichorn and His Victim



ALBERT EICHORN

Albert Eichorn, Ithaca farmer, was convicted Monday afternoon by a jury to circuit court on a charge of murder in the first degree, as a result of the death of Beatrice Epler by strangulation Tuesday night, September 4, 1917, after one of the most expensive and longest trials on record in the Clinton-Gratiot circuit.

Immediately after the verdict was rendered Judge E. J. Moinet sentenced Eichorn to Marquette prison for life, and officers left with him for the prison that same night. He has now started his prison term to expiate the crime for which he was convicted.



BEATRICE EPLER

## PATRIOTIC MEETING

Meeting Held Here Monday Evening in Interest of Recruiting

Alma staged a good big patriotic celebration and pageant Monday evening in the interests of navy recruiting, which is certain to have a good effect in aiding to stimulate enlistments in this highly important branch of Uncle Sam's service.

To open the program of the evening a big parade was held which was led by the Shepherd band secured for the occasion. The band was followed by the Alma high school cadets, who always draw a good hand when they turn out for such events. A large

number of Alma ladies and Alma college girls took part in the parade, all of them being dressed to represent Red Cross nurses. Three Liberty trucks were also features of the pageant.

Following the parade a mass meeting was held at the Methodist church on Prospect avenue, where a large crowd gathered to hear the addresses by J. N. McCall of Ithaca and others. Planned at first as a meeting simply to stimulate interest in navy enlistments, it also served a good purpose for the Red Cross and without question has had a big effect in aiding in bringing about contributions during the week.

## Memorial Day Proclamation

BY THE GOVERNOR

THE observance of Memorial Day, a day dear to the heart of the patriot, the day of all days which most abundantly in hallowed memories and associations, is distinctively an American custom, and one that beautifully reflects the spirit of democracy. It is a day which brings to the surface the kinder, nobler impulses of the human heart, and bids us pause, even in times of war, to honor the memory of those who offered up their lives on Freedom's altar. It is the day that commemorates the great deeds and heroic sacrifices of the brave men who, more than half a century ago, sustained the cause of the Union. These men deserve well of ourselves and all future generations of Americans. They saved the nation from disruption. They redeemed labor from slavery. They converted into a concrete, living fact that what before had been held as an abstract principle, namely, that all men are created free and equal, not equal in power and endowment, but equal in their right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The men who accomplished these stupendous labors were true patriots; and it is ours to honor the memory of the departed and pay homage to those who still live.

Again, today, the life of the Republic is threatened, this time from without. We have been forced into war. We face the peril which menaces all the free nations of the earth, and we have made common cause with them. Together we are fighting to keep the world from being throttled by a ruthless autocratic power. The fate of democracy hangs in the balance. The freedom of the world is at stake; and as our fathers went out in sixty-one to do battle for a righteous cause, so our sons are going out to-day to do battle for a cause that is no whit less righteous. They are fighting to uphold the rights of humanity. They are fighting to save civilization from destruction. Their valor and their patriotism need no eulogy. They are worthy sons of worthy sires.

One young soldier writes to his mother, "I am going to fight this war as a man, and I'll never come back with a stain on the name I love. If I am called upon to make the supreme sacrifice, I'm going with my boots on and a smile on my lips. When I am across, don't worry, little mother, because I want you to be proud to call me 'My son.' That spirit will win. It cannot fail to win, although the hour of victory may be delayed. Let us not let our nation's destiny rest in the hands of our gallant soldier and sailor lads. God bless them, and keep them true and steadfast! God help us at home to realize our responsibility, and with whole-hearted devotion, to do our part.

Therefore, that we may pay a tribute of affection and esteem to the surviving veterans of the Civil War and of the Spanish-American War, and do honor to the memory not only of the men who gave up their lives in these wars of the past, but of the brave boys also who have fallen in the present conflict, I, Albert E. Sleeper, Governor of the State of Michigan, do hereby issue this, my Proclamation, and sincerely urge the observance of Thursday, May thirtieth, nineteen hundred and eighteen, as Memorial Day.

I venture to express the hope that the day will be kept in a manner consistent with the spirit of the occasion. It should be a day for the re-dedication of our strength and service, the renewed consecration of our every effort and resource, to the support of our fighting forces.

And pursuant to President Wilson's proclamation, I earnestly request the people of Michigan to observe this day as a solemn festival, and to gather in their accustomed places of worship and there to offer prayers for the victory of the American armies, that a just and lasting peace may be established throughout the world.

On that day flags should be displayed at half-staff until noon, and then hoisted to the top of the staff. Given under my hand and the great seal of the State, this seventeenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighteen, and of the Commonwealth the eighty-second.

By the Governor:  
COLEMAN C. VAUGHN,  
Secretary of State.

## MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM GOOD

Alma Will Observe Day With Deep Reverence for Departed Warriors.

## MASON GIVES THE ADDRESS

Exercises To Be Held in Presbyterian Church and also at the Cemetery.

On Thursday, May 30, Alma will again be called upon to remember those brave sons who so nobly upheld the honor of their country a half century ago, and preserved the United States as a single nation, as will every other city and hamlet in the country. The brave men who wore the gray, Americans also, will be remembered.

In past years it has been the custom to hold the Memorial services at Wright opera house, but now since this has gone out of existence as an opera house, the services are to be held in the First Presbyterian church, which has been secured for the day.

A fine program has been arranged for Memorial day, which is expected to draw a large crowd. It follows:

Morning  
Decorating of graves by Boy Scouts at 10:00 a. m.

Afternoon  
Presbyterian Church 2:00 p. m.  
Song—Wright Quartette.  
Invocation—Rev. Priest.  
Patriotic Song—High school chorus.  
Reading of Orders—A. Crooks, Adj. of Post.

Song—College Quartette.  
Lincoln's Gettysburg Address—6th, 7th, and 8th grades.  
Exercises—6th, 7th and 8th grades.  
Introduction of speaker—Prof. J. T. Ewing.

Address—Rev. William H. Mason, D. D.

Song.  
Benediction—Rev. Duffey.  
Line of march, starting from State and Superior streets to Riverside cemetery.

Order of March  
Mayor and city officials.  
Fraternal societies.  
Alma fire department.  
W. R. C. and G. A. R.  
Pupils of schools.  
Citizens in automobiles.

Exercises at Cemetery  
Ritualistic services—Wm. Moyer Post.

This will be followed by a short program at the river by the W. R. C. and the scattering of flowers on the water in commemoration of the Nation's sailor dead.

Officers of the Day  
C. A. Walker, commander.  
A. Crooks, adjutant.  
J. D. Helman, Marshal of the Day.

## BOYS IN TROUBLE

Three Lads Found by Officers in the Basement of McCarty Restaurant.

Monday, late in the evening, Mrs. Jennie McCarty became certain that someone was in the basement of her restaurant and locking the door, so that they could not get out, she called the officers, who found three young lads in the basement endeavoring to keep out of sight.

It is just another of those stories of young lads of this city, endeavoring to get things to which they have no right, and which belongs to others. The boys were Frank Wilbur, Howard Wilbur and George Campbell.

They will be turned over to the county truant officer, who will look after them.

Several such affairs have taken place here of late, among the young lads of the city, and several boys are now under charge of the county truant officer.

## ENLARGE PLANT

Central Michigan Clay Products Co. is Incorporated.

The old tile company, located between this city and St. Louis, has been incorporated for sixty thousand dollars, and the name changed to the Central Michigan Products company.

It is reported that the old kilns which were replaced with new ones, and that when the work is completed the plant will be a modern one in every respect. When the new plant is completed nearly a score of men will be regularly employed in the making of all kinds of clay products. Tile will be manufactured in great quantities because of the large demand for this product through this section of the state.

It is said about forty men will be employed in the construction of the new plant, work on which is to be started immediately.

## ORGANIZED BRANCH

Women's Council of National Defense Formed at Elwell.

Thursday afternoon a branch of the Woman's Council of National Defense was formed at Elwell. Mrs. Charles G. Rhodes of this city, aided the ladies of Elwell in organizing the branch.

A large number of Elwell ladies were present at the organization and showed great enthusiasm over the prospects of the Elwell branch. It was decided when the organization was completed to hold a meeting each month. Notice of the meetings will be published in the Record.

The officers elected were as follows: Chairman, Mrs. William Schiff. Secretary, Mrs. Esther Sherk. Chairman of ways and means committee, Mrs. Collier.

## POSTPONED

Murder Case Causes Postponement of Worden's Case to June 1.

The case against Ollie Worden, which was set for Saturday, April 18, has been postponed until Saturday, June 1, by the authorities, because of the fact that the Albert Eichorn murder case was not over, so that Prosecuting Attorney Ora L. Smith could be present.

Worden was arrested the first part of the month on a disorderly charge, following his having been arrested and fined twice during the past few months for drunkenness.

## RED CROSS DRIVE MEETING WITH SUCCESS

It is Expected that End of Week Will See Alma and Gratiot Go Over the Top.

Reports which are coming in indicate that the Red Cross drive in Alma and out through the country is meeting with great success and that there is every indication that the entire county will top the quota in the drive for funds for this great organization, which is doing so much for the relief of the soldiers on the field.

No figures have been obtainable on the results of the drive, as the various committees have not yet turned in the cards which have been signed so far. This is probably due to the fact that none of the committees in charge of the various wards have so far completed their work.

It is gathered that the committees are meeting with a whole-hearted support here in Alma from those they have been able to see in the house to house canvasses, but the solicitors have not been able to see many who have been working or were away from home, but expect to visit these people again before the week is over and secure their pledges for the big drive.

It is very probable that the entire amount subscribed in Alma will not be known before Monday or Tuesday evening.

The response out in the country is reported as very favorable in every district and high hopes are being entertained that the county will go far above the quota which has been assigned to it.

## TIRE WEEK

Place Worn Out Tires on Band Stand as Gift to the Red Cross.

Throw your old tires in the bandstand during the coming week and help the Red Cross. All the old automobile tires in the county are wanted. Old worn out tires are the kind, those of which are no benefit to the users of automobiles.

Get in line. The Red Cross is doing a noble work, a work which means much, not only for the United States, but for humanity at large over the entire world. It means much, very much for the Sammies at the front.

The Red Cross needs funds, large funds to carry on the great work which it is doing. That is the reason for the placing of the band stand in front of the city hall on which you may place your old automobile tires, which are to be sold and the proceeds turned to the Red Cross, to aid in giving it funds with which to carry on its work.

Old worn out tires do not mean much to anyone. All of them, placed on the band stand will make a respectable pile, which when sold will yield a good sum for the Red Cross.

Do your part. Pull those old tires out of the corners of the garage. Load them into your automobile and take them down to the band stand in front of the city hall. Deposit them there. The advertising department of the Republic will see that they are sold and the proceeds turned to the Red Cross.

## SIXTY-ONE ON THE DRAFT CALL

Large Number of Gratiot Co. Men Leave for Camp Custer Wednesday.

## DOZEN LOCAL MEN ON LIST

New Call Includes a Few Men Married Since U. S. Entered the World War.

Sixty-one men have been called by the Gratiot county draft board to report for military duty May 29, at which time they will leave for the training camps to become a portion of Uncle Sam's fighting force.

This is one of the largest lists of men who have been so far called on the draft at one time from Gratiot county, and it would be very fitting if the people of the city turned out and gave these men a good hearty send off, when they leave here Wednesday morning for Camp Custer where they will go into training.

Order No. Name Address  
368 Hobart Edward Emerick, Carson City.

484 Julius De Cloedt, Ashley  
503 Peter Trepach, E. Chicago, Ind.  
508 Charles Snow, Merrill

681 Floyd L. Warner, Carson City.  
714 George D. Brimble, Alma  
797 Kenneth Olson, Breckenridge

823 Leon J. Austin, Ithaca  
829 Bert Towesery, Forest Hill  
999 Gordon Tracey, North Star

989 Clyde H. Cross, Sumner  
1652 Fred Sigmundson, St. Louis  
1659 Jesse H. Harlow, Carson City

1105 Wayne Cook, Pompeii  
1119 Ezra Rhynard, Ashley  
1219 Jacob Rachel Criner, Bannister

1284 Charles L. Hill, Elwell  
1326 Roy Lobody, Alma  
1345 Clarence V. Warner, Middleton

1357 Walter Carl Voss, Ashley  
1379 Jacob L. Frickie, Perrinton  
1377 Ernest L. Duflo, Middleton

1421 Thomas William Murray, Alma  
1448 Clarence Alphonse Frump, Ithaca  
1462 Earl J. Lauver, Bannister

1608 Eddie Ballenger, St. Louis  
1638 Walter J. Wilhelm, Wheeler  
1696 Howard Sheller, Alma

1698 Joseph John Koiffer, Carson City  
1699 Joseph L. Cooley, Sumner  
1709 Herman Leroy Evans, Ithaca

1805 Alger W. Wood, Moline, Ill.  
1807 Earl P. Sowers, North Star  
1853 Dewey, Conklin, Wheeler

1881 Roland Perkins Wood, Ithaca  
1888 Anton Bilgren, Harrison  
1967 Carlye Forest Hawley, Alma

1974 Henry J. Baker, Alma  
1979 Ora L. Halwick, Elwell  
1988 Clarence Ludwick, Breckenridge

2037 Leo Wrisley, Vestaburg  
2040 Paul G. Eldridge, Breckenridge  
2089 Glenn Webster Ferris, St. Louis

2218 Claud Burgess, Breckenridge  
2306 Eugene W. Cram, Elwell  
2312 Howard Miller, Alma

2343 Carl M. Hiffner, Ithaca  
2372 Ford F. Bacon, Detroit  
2377 Orin Alger Frye, Grand Rapids

2399 Joe C. Brown, Ithaca  
2404 Charles Elmer Ellsworth, Ithaca  
2419 Clarence Hetzman, Ithaca

2436 Fred F. Ashley, Ashley  
2442 Frank McJilton, St. Louis  
2476 Leon E. Barrett, St. Louis

2477 Fred William Terwilliger, Alma  
2483 Frank De Pauw, Detroit  
2490 George Carl Titus, Choboygan

2501 Lewis Funk, St. Louis  
2508 Earl Crippen, Bannister  
2510 James Dyer, Alma  
2532 Loyal Washington Marcham, Gray's Lake, Ill.

2537 Elwin L. Joslin, Elm Hall  
2542 Michael Marston, Alma  
2556 William Alvin Lott, Alma  
2562 Glenn Vliet, St. Louis  
2570 Chester Bevan, Elvart  
2591 Albert E. Rider, Alma

## THIS WEEK

Lyman H. Howe Travel Festival Will be Seen at the M. E. Church.

The Lyman H. Howe Travel Festival, which is being brought to this city for benefit shows Friday and Saturday for the Red Cross, will be held in the M. E. church as originally announced.

The young men's class of the M. E. church contracted the attraction as a means of securing additional funds for the Red Cross and is getting the church fitted up for the festival, which will be held Friday and Saturday nights, with a matinee Saturday afternoon.

The Howe attractions are highly spoken of, particularly because of their educational value, and are sure to meet with popular favor, especially, when being conducted here for the Red Cross.

The evening performances will start at 8:00 p. m. and the Saturday afternoon matinee at 3:00 p. m.